

DEFEATED

When God Feels Distant

Scripture: Psalm 44

Listening to Their Story

- We know some awesome Bible lessons (44:1-8).
- Our story looks completely different (44:9-16).
- Does God really care about us (44:17-22)?
- Why does God sleep while we perish (44:23-26)?

Wrestling with Their Story

- If people lamented then, should we lament now?
(see also Prov. 29:2; Isa. 1:17; 1 Thess. 4:11-12)
- If God did it back then, can He do it now?
(see also Mt. 17:20-21; Jn. 14:12-14; Eph. 3:20-21)
- If God showed up today, would we make room?
(see also Mt. 13:54-58; Lk. 10:38-42; Jn. 5:39-40)
- If God doesn't show up, we will still trust Him?
(see also Isa. 40; Rom. 8; 1 Cor. 15; Rev. 21-22)

DIGGING DEEPER

Question 1: From the Text

Do you think the complaints against God in verses 9-22 were valid? Explain why or why not.

Question 2: Life Experience

List some examples of times in life where people may think that being faithful to God isn't really worth it or does not produce the results they were looking for.

Question 3: Personal & Practical

If God showed up today, would I make room for Him in my life? If so, what would "making room" for Him look like?

The Bigger Picture

As we read Scripture, two themes often run side by side: God's purposes are moving forward, and God's people are suffering. These themes culminate, according to Paul in Romans 8, in the love that God has for us in Christ. Through the cross, God works all things for good and assures us that nothing can separate us from His love.